

null
Diana T Fritz 03/21/2007 05:40:01 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

Cable
Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

June 15, 2003

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 2877 - UNKNOWN)
TAGS: EAID, PREL, PGOV, PHUM
Captions: None
Subject: UAE RED CRESCENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO IRAQ TOTAL MORE THAN
USD \$18 MILLION TO DATE
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 02877

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: POL
INFO: ECON RSO AMB DCM P/M

DISSEMINATION: POL
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: A/DCM: TWILLIAMS
DRAFTED: ECON:CCRUMPLER
CLEARED: NONE

VZCZCADI795
OO RUEHC RUCNRAQ RUEKJCS RUMICEA RUEKJCS RUEHDI
DE RUEHAD #2877/01 1661253
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 151253Z JUN 03
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0439
INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUMICEA/USCINCCENT INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHDI/AMCONSUL DUBAI PRIORITY 3196

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 002877

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP, NEA/RA, NEA/NGA, PRM/ANE, AND IO/UNP
KUWAIT FOR HOC AND ORHA

E.O. 12958: DECL N/A
TAGS: [EAID](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [IZ](#) [TC](#)
SUBJECT: UAE RED CRESCENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO IRAQ TOTAL MORE
THAN USD \$18 MILLION TO DATE

REF: ABU DHABI 2303 AND PREVIOUS

[1](#)1. (U) Summary and comment. UAE Red Crescent Authority (RCA)
Secretary General Sana'a Al-Kitbi forwarded to Econoff 6/15 a

SIPDIS
retrospective on the RCA's work in Iraq from the present
until shortly before the war began. The RCA has contributed more
than USD \$18 million in humanitarian supplies and services to the
people of Iraq since November 2002, and continues to answer the
Humanitarian Operations Center's appeals for emergency assistance.

The RCA is forging ahead with its major hospital refurbishment program in Iraq, and has agreed to accept more Iraqi children for medical treatment in the UAE. We expect the final price tag for RCA humanitarian assistance programs in Iraq to far exceed the USD \$18 million already spent.
End summary and comment.

Phase I: Pre-War Stockpiling, \$826,000

¶2. (U) A few months prior to the war in Iraq, and in response to appeals from the ICRC and the Iraqi Red Crescent Society, the UAE RCA sent four delegations between November 2002 and April 2003 to help build emergency stockpiles of food and medical supplies in Iraq. The RCA delegations purchased these products from the local economy, and either warehoused the goods or distributed them to hospitals and villages through existing United Nations distribution networks. The value of this pre-war mission totaled about USD \$826,000.

Phase II: Emergency Humanitarian Aid, \$5.5 Million

¶3. (U) During and directly after the war, the RCA shipped more than 1700 tons of medical equipment and supplies, food parcels, dates, tents, emergency vehicles and four water tankers to Iraq in two separate shipments to Umm Qasr. The RCA dispatched by road from Kuwait, Jordan, and Turkey 55 trucks of approximately 1100 tons of basic foodstuffs, shoes and clothing, mattresses, pillows, and blankets to Iraq. The UAEG also donated three heavy trucks to aid other NGOs in Iraq with the distribution of their assistance. More than 250 tons of dates were sent to Iraq by air from the UAE once military aircraft were permitted to land in Basrah and Baghdad.

¶4. (U) The RCA also contributed thousands of dollars to rebuilding the infrastructure in southern Iraq. The RCA built a water treatment plant with 200,000-gallon capacity in Basrah, and has begun construction of three other water treatment plants with 25,000-gallon capacity in the surrounding areas. The RCA also donated a generator for the Saba Nissan water station on the Tigris river that provides clean water to approximately 1.5 million people. The RCA likewise identified and refurbished an office in Iraq from which ICRC staff could operate, and donated to the ICRC a refrigerated truck for use in its medical logistic operations in Iraq.

¶5. (U) In the UAE, the RCA provided emergency food and shelter to hundreds of Iraqis who were stranded in Dubai at the onset of the war in Iraq. The stranded Iraqis remained in Dubai until the beginning of June, at which time the RCA paid for the Iraqis to return to Iraq overland via Jordan. This second phase of humanitarian assistance in Iraq cost the RCA more than USD \$5.5 million.

Phase III: Air Bridge, \$1.6 Million And Counting

¶6. (U) As reported reftel, the RCA began an "air bridge" of humanitarian flights to Baghdad, Basrah, and Mosul on 4/27 to support Iraqi hospitals and dispatch about 255 tons of medicines, medical items, children's nutrients and other necessities. As of 6/3, the RCA had sponsored 17 such flights at a cost of more than USD \$1.6 million. Post receives notification from the RAMCC that these RCA flights to Iraq continue on an almost daily basis.

Phase IV: Hospital Renovation, \$10.8 Million

¶7. (U) In May, the RCA began the complete renovation and refurbishment of six hospitals in Iraq. A UAE medical team headed this effort, and remains in Iraq to manage the administration of the Shaykh Zayid Hospital in Baghdad -- which the RCA rehabilitated in April. The RCA's hospital rehabilitation program has cost nearly USD \$10.8 million to date.

Phase V: Treatment Of Wounded Iraqis...Priceless

¶8. (U) The RCA has not yet estimated the total cost of evacuating in May nearly 40 wounded children and their parents to the UAE for medical treatment. The Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC) in Kuwait asked the RCA to arrange for and cover all costs associated with the special medical evacuation flights -- the first of which was a presidential Amiri flight -- accommodations and food for the parents while in the UAE, all related medical treatment and rehabilitation, and a return trip home once the patients have recovered. Requests from the HOC continue, and the UAE may accept up to 25 additional patients identified by the HOC as requiring medical treatment available in the UAE.

¶9. (U) The RCA also is seeking more advanced medical treatment in the United States for one of the Iraqi patients, and is likely to cover the child's hospital costs and travel expenses. While at this point the total cost for medical treatment for these Iraqi patients is unknown, we estimate it is in the range of several million dollars.

Wahba